FOR THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE TEAM IN HAWAII

**NOVEMBER 2020** 

Safety, Testing

**USS Michael Murphy** Commended

**American** Indian Heritage Month

INSIDE:

COVID-19

## **Honoring our Veterans**

Thank you for your service

Pq. 8



#### VMM 363 delivers payload to submarine

U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Ruben Arzate, attached to the "Lucky Red Lions" of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 363, lowers a payload from an MV-22B Osprey to the Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS Henry M. Jackson (SSBN 730) in the vicinity of the Hawaiian Islands Oct. 21. This event was designed to test and evaluate the tactics, techniques, and procedures of U.S. Strategic Command's expeditionary logistics and enhance the overall readiness of our strategic forces. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Matthew Kirk)



**Director of Public Affairs, Navy Region Hawaii** Lydia Robertson

Deputy Director of Public Affairs, Navy Region Hawaii Mike Andrews

Director of Public Affairs, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Chuck Anthony

Director of Public Affairs, Pacific Missile Range Facility Tom Clements

Managing Editor
Anna Marie General

Military Editor MC2 Charles Oki

Contributing Staff Elaine Phillips David Underwood, Jr. MC1 Erickson Magno GSE2 Lexie Perez

Ho'okele is a free publication.

All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, JBPHH, Hawaii, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876. This is an authorized publication primarily for members of the uniformed military services and their families in Hawaii. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, and the military branch of services and do not imply endorsement thereof. A Hui Hou!

#### DiverseVIEWS |

"Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, what have you been most thankful for?"

By David D. Underwood, Jr., MC1 Erickson Magno and MC2 Charles Oki



YN1 Desmond Houston
Navy Munitions Command Pacific
East Asia Division/NMCEAD

"The chance to save money. With everything closed I've been able to work on building up my savings."

(Note: Photographers were 6 feet away from subject while social distancing.)



Col. James S. Shigekane Vice Commander 154th Wing

"I am most thankful for how our Airmen and families have gone above and beyond the call to ensure we maintain focus on taking care of each other. We have done so well at identifying different ways to maintain readiness and accomplish our mission."



EM2 Chris Elbancol
Pacific Missile Range Facility

"I'm thankful for good health and family!"

#### Your Navy Team in Hawaii

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii oversees two installations: Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Oahu and Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, on Kauai. As Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, we provide oversight for the ten surface ships homeported at JBPHH. Navy aircraft squadrons are also co-located at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe, Oahu, and training is sometimes also conducted on other islands, but most Navy assets are located at JBPHH and PMRF. These two installations serve fleet, fighter and family under the direction of Commander, Navy Installations Command.

A guided-missile cruiser and destroyers of Commander, Naval Surface Force Pacific deploy independently or as part of a group for Commander, U.S. Third Fleet and in the Seventh Fleet and Fifth Fleet areas of responsibility. The Navy, including your Navy team in Hawaii, builds partnerships and strengthens interoperability in the Pacific. Each year, Navy ships, submarines and aircraft from Hawaii participate in various training exercises with allies and friends in the Pacific and Indian Oceans to strengthen interoperability. Navy service members and civilians conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster response missions in the South Pacific and in Asia. Working with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Navy in Hawaii provides drug interdiction and fisheries enforcement operations for Commander. U.S. Pacific Fleet. In even-numbered years Hawaii hosts the biennial summer Rim of the Pacific Exercise, the world's largest military maritime exercise, featuring more than two dozen nations and 25,000 personnel.

The Navy family in Hawaii comprises around 50,000 people, most of whom are active duty service members and their families, and includes nearly 15,000 civilians and contractors as part of our workforce.

JBPHH includes the Pearl Harbor waterfront, Hickam flight line, Wahiawa annex and several other areas in West Oahu and provides a major logistics and other support hub for the military and military families. Supporting the nation's ballistic missile defense initiative, the Pacific Missile Range Facility on the western coast of "The Garden Island," is the world's largest instrumented multidimensional testing and training missile range.

We provide services to the U.S. Pacific Command, one of DOD's six geographic combatant commands, with an area of responsibility covering half the globe. We directly support two component commands whose headquarters are on JBPHH: Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Commander, U.S. Pacific Air Force. Close to our own Region/ MIDPAC headquarters command is Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. With 18 forward-deployable combat-ready U.S. Navy submarines. Pearl Harbor is home to the largest submarine presence in the Pacific. The Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, on JBPHH, is the largest ship repair facility between the West Coast and the Far East. Within our region we support more than 100 tenant commands.

#### CONTENTS



#### IN THE SPOTLIGHT

**USS Michael Murphy** receives U.S. Coast Guard commendation



#### **DIVERSITY AND AWARENESS**

National American Indian Heritage Month

- Recognizing American Indian Heritage
- Military service during World War II

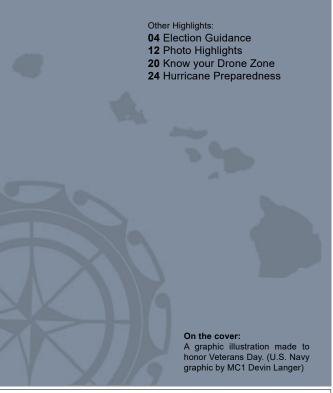
14-16



#### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- Curbside Pickup rolls out at Military Exchange
- Protecting the Shearwaters
- Medical team conducts COVID-19 testing

18-23



connect with us



@JointBasePHH @NavRegHawaii



@JBPHH @NavyRegionHawaii

@PacificMissileRangeFacility



@JBPHH



Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

**REAR ADM. ROBB CHADWICK** 



Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

**CAPT. ERIK SPITZER** 



**CAPT. TIMOTHY YOUNG** 



#### THE ELECTIONS HOW YOUR VOTE COUNTS





Your vote is your voice. Not only your vote for the Presidential election, but also important representatives for your state and districts.



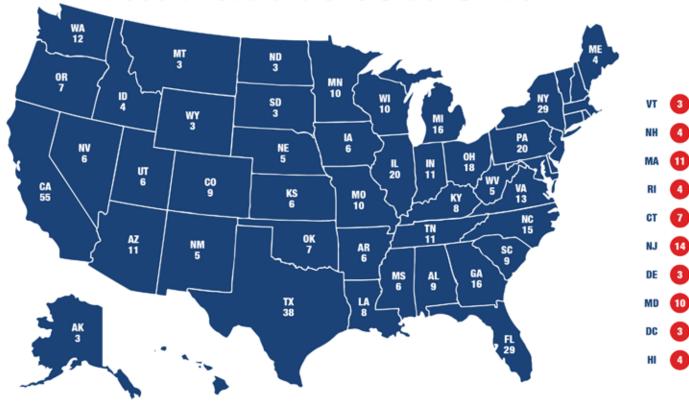
The electors in each state cast their votes. Some states base their votes on the popular vote, which is where your vote plays a major role.



There is a total of 538 electoral votes (435 representatives, 100 senators, 3 electors for D.C.). A candidate needs at least 270 votes to be elected President.

\* Each state is different. Some states may or may not require their electors to vote with the popular majority, and they may or may not give all of their electors to the winner of the statewide popular vote. Check how voting in your state is done to ensure the best way for your voice to be heard.

## ELECTORAL VOTES BY STATE



#### IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER 3. 2020

DECEMBER 14. 2020

JANUARY 6, 2021

JANUARY 20, 2021

Electoral college representatives meet in the capitols of their respective states to cast their votes.

The electoral college votes are entered and the final vote tallies are announced.

The winning candidate takes the oath of office and becomes the President of the United States.



#### THINK TWICE BEFORE POSTING

You opinion is important, but remember that you represent the United Sates Armed Forces. Here are a few things to keep in mind as a member of the Armed Forces on active duty.



- Register, vote and express personal opinion on candidates but not as a representative of the armed forces.
- · Promote and encourage others to vote.
- Join a partisan or nonpartisan political club and attend its meetings when not in uniform.
- When expressing personal views in writing, it should be clearly stated that the views expressed are those of the individual only and not of the Department of Defense.
- Display a political bumper sticker on the member's private vehicle.
- Attend partisan and nonpartisan political fundraising activities, meetings, rallies, debates, conversations, or activities as a spectator when not in uniform.
- Participate fully in the Federal Voting Assistance Program.



- Use official authority or influence to interfere with an election.
- Speak before a partisan political gathering including any gathering that promotes a partisan political party, candidate or cause.
- Participate in any radio, TV, or other program or group discussion as an advocate for or against a partisan political party, candidate or cause.
- March or ride in a partisan political parade.
- Display a large political sign, banner, or poster (as distinguished from a bumper sticker) on a private vehicle.
- Display a partisan political sign, poster, banner or similar device visible to the public at one's residence on a military installation, even if that residence is part of a privatized housing development.
- Attend partisan political events as an official representative of the Armed Forces.

For full list and further instruction, please refer to DoDD 1344.10



#### **USS MICHAEL MURPHY**

#### RECEIVES UNITED STATES COAST GUARD COMMENDATION

By MC2 Jessica O. Blackwell, Navy Public Affairs Support Element Det. Hawaii

PEARL HARBOR - USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) was awarded the Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation during a pierside ceremony, Oct. 13, for the ship's assistance in a 2019 maritime interdiction operation in the U.S. 4th Fleet area of operations.

Capt. Alan B. McCabe, commanding officer, U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Midgett (WMSL 757), presented the award to Cmdr. Scott P. Maloney, commanding officer, Michael Murphy, hailing "the seamless integration" between the Navy and Coast Guard (USCG) as the reason for the "smooth, safe, and successful interdiction" which led to the seizure of 990 kilograms of cocaine worth an estimated 29.2 million U.S. dollars' worth of cocaine.

In July 2019, Michael Murphy was on patrol in the eastern Pacific Ocean when a MH-60R Sea Hawk helicopter of the embarked air detachment "Easyriders" of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 37, detected a low-profile vessel (LPV). The helicopter communicated back to Michael Murphy, relaying their finding. Maloney, who was

Michael Murphy's executive officer at the time, was notified and joined Command Master Chief Jose Ramiro to discuss the unfolding situation.

"I've been doing counter narcotics operations in South America since 1999, so with my experience I realized this was a vessel known for transporting drugs," said Ramiro.

Surveillance of the vessel also showed the suspected narco-traffickers jettisoning objects overboard.

"In the 4th Fleet, we understand one of the existing dynamic problems is drug smuggling and moving it into the Americas," said Senior Chief Fire Controlman Ryan Keola Patricio, a Hawaiian native assigned to Michael Murphy. "It has an impact on the country's citizens, the country's economy, and those who mean us and our people harm. This is supposed to sustain their way of life. So, for us to be a deterrent and show force peacefully, without any rounds fired, goes to show we are a very flexible and dynamic force, especially integrating with the U.S. Coast Guard."

Ramiro said in the 24 hours preceding the interdiction, the ship accomplished a string of successful missions, including

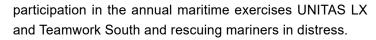
Capt. Alan McCabe, commanding officer, U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Midgett, presents the crew of the USS Michael Murphy with the Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation Ribbon award at Pearl Harbor, Oct. 13. The award is meant to recognize the teamwork between the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Navy.

(U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Ryan Fisher)



Capt. Alan B. McCabe, commanding officer, U. S. Coast Guard Cutter Midgett (WMSL 757), addresses the crew of USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) after awarding the command the Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation in a pierside ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Oct. 13.

(U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jessica O. Blackwell)



"We engaged the fishing vessel and found out they were fishermen who had been lost at sea for days," said Ramiro. "They were pretty much out of food and water and their boat was broken. We rescued them and turned them over to Ecuadorian Coast Guard so they could go home. A winwin situation."

In the span of less than 48 hours, Michael Murphy Sailors had demonstrated both the readiness and resiliency of their team in several vastly different missions.

"It was a proud moment of my career on the Michael Murphy," said Ramiro. "It actually shows how this command and its Sailors are battle ready and battle minded. We were able to suit up for an unplanned mission and stop them. That battle readiness mentality that we're always talking about throughout the Navy was beautifully put together by Michael Murphy Sailors."

Patricio said Michael Murphy Sailors put the mission first, no matter what.





In the 4th Fleet, we understand one of the existing dynamic problems is drug smuggling and moving it into the Americas. It has an impact on the country's citizens, the country's economy, and those who mean us and our people harm.

"Our motto is Lead the Fight. All that we do plays into our motto," said Patricio. "We are expected to lead so we continue to do so no matter what it is. That's the pride that comes with the namesake of the ship and the culture of the command in trying to maintain a legacy, but also leave a legacy."

Michael Murphy is homeported in Hawaii at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

# HONORING OL

#### WORLD WAR I

"The Great War"

1917 -

**4,734,991 SERVED 116,516 DIED** 

**- 1918** 



Photos by Tech









Photos courtesy of Naval History and Heritage Command

#### KOREAN WAR

1950

5,720,000 SERVED 36,574 DIED

**1953** 



Photos by Staff Sgt. Jason Ra









Photos by Katie Lange

# JR WEIERANS











#### WORLD WAR II

1941 -

16,112,566 SERVED 405,399 DIED

**- 1945** 









Photo by Katie Lange



#### VIETNAM WAR

1964 -

8,744,000 SERVED **58.220 DIED** 

· 1975

#### GULF WAR

"Desert Shield/Desert Storm"

1990

2,225,000 SERVED **383 DIED** 

1991



Photo courtesy



Photo courtesy of Britanica.com



Photo by Spc. Duong Le



Photo by Cpl. Reece Lodder

#### APPROX. 1.3 MILLION SERVING

## POL

# THARKYOU FOR











\* \* NOVEMBE

For the upcoming Veterans Day holiday, the Navy Office of Community Outreach (NAVCO) is offering an opportunity to create and share short, recorded shout-outs of 15-20 seconds from Sailors to veterans in their hometowns. The deadline is Nov. 2 at 8 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

- Sailors can call 1-855-OUR-NAVY (1-855-687-6289) and record their shout-outs.
- Wait for a 3 to 5-second pause after voice directions and record their message, using the template script.

#### **VETERANS DAY SHOU**

The script is as follows:

"Hi, I'm Navy (rank and full name) from (home at (command) or aboard (ship), operating out

I want to salute all the veterans in (hometown Thank you for your service and for defending







Photos courtesy of Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs





#### IRAQ/AFGHANISTAN WAR

"The Global War on Terror"

2001 — 6,773 DIED — PRESENT



APPROX. **800,000 RESERVE** 

# YOURSERWCE

R 11, 2020  $\star$   $\star$   $\star$ 

#### **JT OUT FOR SAILORS**

etown and home state), and currently serving of (duty station) or forward in the (AOR).

, and across America this Veterans Day! freedom around the world."

Once the Sailors hang up, the audio file will be automatically sent to NAVCO's email, where it will be screened before being shared with radio media outlets in the Sailors' hometowns.

They should deliver their shout-outs with enthusiasm, and speak audibly and clearly. In addition, they should tailor it to their command, area of responsibility and hometown they are recognizing. If NAVCO cannot understand the Sailor's name, hometown or command, their shout-out will be unusable.

## PHOTO









Sailors assigned to the U.S.
Pacific Fleet Band play as the
Japan Maritime Self- Defense
Force training ship JDS Kashima
(TV-3508) pulls into Joint Base
Pearl Harbor-Hickam Sept. 28.
(Photo by David Hodge)

An MV-22B Osprey, attached to the "Lucky Red Lions" of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 363, delivers a payload to the Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS Henry M. Jackson (SSBN 730) in the vicinity of the Hawaiian Islands Oct. 21. (Photo by MC3 Jaimar Carson Bondurant)

8

Active duty units participated in SHOTEX, the first ever Joint Base influenza vaccination drivethrough at the Hickam softball field during a two-day event Oct. 19 and 20. (Photo by ET2 Kristen Ramillano)

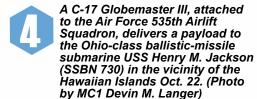
## HIGHLIGHTS







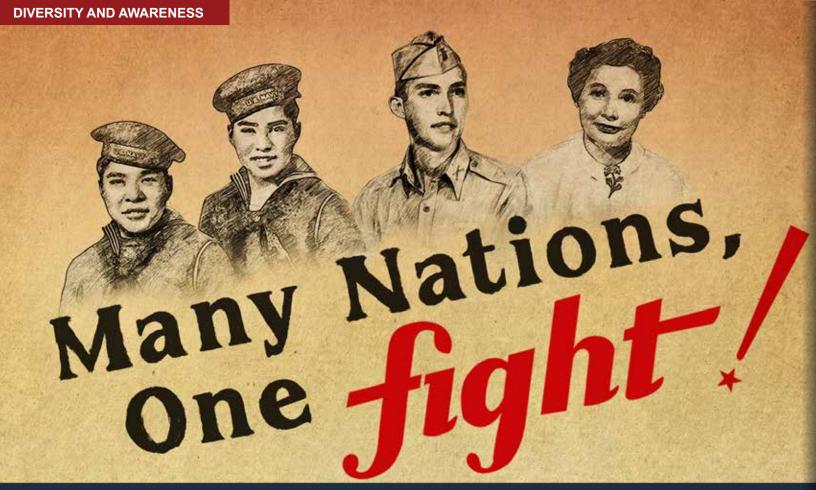




Sailors handle the phone-anddistance (POD) line between the Lewis and Clark-class dry cargo ship USNS Carl Brashear (T-AKE-7) and the Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97), during a replenishment-at-sea (RAS) in the Andaman Sea Oct. 10. (Phóto by MC3 Andrew Langholf)



The Arleigh-Burke Class guided-missile destroyer USS William P. Lawrence (DDG 110) fires an Mk 45 5-inch light-weight gun during a live-fire exercise in the Caribbean Sea Sept. 22. (Photo by MC3 Maria G. Llanos)



#### Recognizing American Indian Heritage

#### Compiled by CNRH Public Affairs

merican Indians and Alaska natives served in large numbers after the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. Forty-four thousand from a total native American population of 350,000 saw active duty. Over 6,000 Alaska natives served in the Alaska Territorial Guard.

#### **MILITARY SERVICE**

In addition to the large number of men who took part in the war, many native American women served in the Armed Forces as members of the WAVES (Women accepted for volunteer emergency services), WACS (Women Army Corps) and Army Nurse Corps.

#### ON THE HOMEFRONT

On the homefront, an estimated 40,000 American Indian men and women sought to serve their country, and they left their reservations to seek jobs in the defense industry.

Additionally, many bought treasury stamps and war bonds and made donations to the Red Cross. In fact, it is estimated, American Indians bought approximately \$50 million in war bonds.

#### **CODE TALKER TRIBES**

Navajo code talkers have long been recognized for the crucial part they played in World War II. Until very recently, no one knew that Alaskan Tlingit code talkers used the Tlingit language in transmitting sensitive messages as well. It was another code that the enemy was never able to crack. Even the families of the Tlingit code talkers did not know of their secret service.

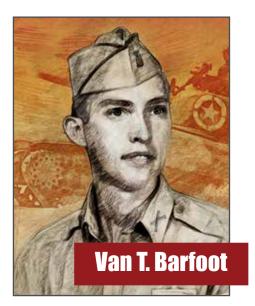
American Indians and Alaskan Natives played an important role in the United States' Armed Forces during World War II. They served bravely and with distinction from the initial attack on Pearl Harbor to the last days of the Pacific campaign.

The nation remains forever indebted to World War II veterans, who not only forever changed the course of history, but who demonstrated selfless service and sacrifice in defense of global peace and security.

We remember their legacy by

Honoring the Past, Securing the Future.

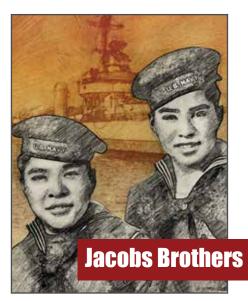
#### Military Service during World War II



After enlisting in the Army in 1940 and completing his training, Barfoot served with the 1st Infantry Division in Louisiana and Puerto Rico. In 1941, he was promoted to sergeant and reassigned to the Headquarters, Amphibious Force Atlantic Fleet in Quantico, Virginia, where he served until the unit was deactivated. He then joined the 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division, and was deployed to Europe.

During the Italian Campaign, Barfoot took part in a series of amphibious landings: the Allied invasion of Sicily, the invasion of mainland Italy at Salerno, and finally the landings at Anzio. In May 1944, his unit had reached the town of Carano. When his company was ordered to attack, Barfoot, now a technical sergeant, asked for permission to lead a squad. He advanced alone through the minefield until he came within a few yards of a machine gun on the German flank.

After taking out the gun with a hand grenade, he entered the German trench and advanced on a second machine gun, killing two soldiers and capturing three others.

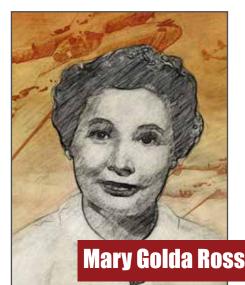


In November 2013, Congress awarded silver medals posthumously to Tlingit code talkers Robert "Jeff" David Sr., Richard Bean Sr., George Lewis Jr., and brothers Harvey Jacobs and Mark Jacobs, Jr.

In May 1942, the first Navajo recruits attended boot camp. Then, at Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California, this first group created the Navajo code. They developed a dictionary and numerous words for military terms. The dictionary and all code words had to be memorized during training.

The code talkers' primary job was to talk, transmitting information on tactics and troop movements, orders and other vital battlefield communications over telephones and radios. They also acted as messengers and performed general Marine duties. In 1942, there were about 50,000 Navajo tribe members.

As of 1945, about 540 Navajos served as Marines. From 375 to 420 of those trained as code talkers; the rest served in other capacities.



Mary Golda Ross attributed her successes to the rich heritage of her Cherokee people and the importance of tribal emphasis on education. From a young age, she gravitated toward mathematics and science.

"I was brought up in the Cherokee tradition of equal education for boys and girls," she said. "It did not bother me to be the only girl in the math class."

She completed high school by the age of 16. And, she graduated from the Northeastern State Teacher's College, a feat that less than two percent of women during this era accomplished.

Her degree in mathematics and her Cherokee cultural heritage led her to work as a statistician for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Later, she served as an adviser to native American students at a boarding school in New Mexico. She then returned to school and received her master's degree from the Colorado State Teachers College, taking "every astronomy class they had."

(Sources: Deomi.org and Naval History and Heritage Command)

## NATIVE AMERICANS IN THE

#### 1941-1945

THE GOOD WAR

After the Imperial Japanese Navy attacked Pearl Harbor. Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, a remarkable number of Native Americans enlisted in the U.S. Armed Forces.

More than 44,000 Native Americans - one third of all able-bodied men from 18-50 years of age - fought with distinction during World War II, including 1,910 in the Navy and 874 in the Marines, Native American women served in noncombat roles in the women's reserve of the Navy known as Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES).

For the Navy, two Oklahoma Cherokees distinguished themselves in the Pacific War, Rear Admiral Joseph J. "Jocko" Clark, nicknamed the "Patton of the Pacific," commanded aircraft carriers and later a task force, earning praise for his flamboyant and daring actions while engaged with the enemy.





Commander Ernest E. Evans, posthumously received the Medal of Honor for his valiant fighting spirit, courage, and skill at the Battle off Samar, Philippines, on October 25, 1944. Although severely wounded early in the action. Evans attacked a heavily armed Japanese force in order to protect American carrier escorts, which forced the enemy to break off its attack and disengage.

#### 1946-1973

BEAR ANY BURDEN

The experiences in World War II for Native Americans awoke a warrior spirit in the men and women who volunteered to serve their nation.



man 2nd Class Verna Tabet Fender

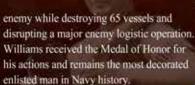


veteran status conferred new respect upon Native Americans in their respective communities. Between 10,000 and 15,000 Native Americans fought in the Korean War (1950 - 1953). During the Vietnam War (1964 - 1975), over 42,000 Native Americans, more than 90 percent of them volunteers, served in the armed forces.

The war years strengthened bonds of

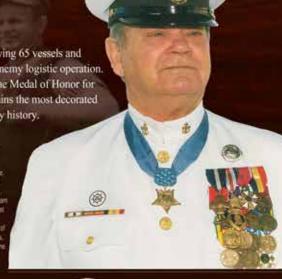
Pan-Indian identity between tribes and

In 1966, South Carolina Cherokee Boatswain's Mate 1st Class James E. Williams distinguished himself above and beyond the call of duty in South Vietnam's Mekong Delta. In a three hour long battle, he commanded two riverine patrol boats against Viet Cong guerrillas, killing untold



#### James E. Williams

A Fort Sill, South Carolina Cheroker





VISIT US AT WWW JUSTORY NAVY MIL

## & NATIVE ALASKANS J.S. NAVY

#### 1973-1991

**NEW OPPORTUNITIES** 

In the early 1970s, Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Elmo Zumwalt sought to reduce racism and sexism in both the Navy and Marine Corps which benefited Native Americans.



#### Rear Admiral Michael L. Holmes

Both the Navy and Marine Corps expanded recruiting and equal opportunity goals for minorities and women, efforts that increased the number of Native American women in the Navy. Continuing into the 1980s until the end of the Cold War, the few barriers that remained to inhibit Native American participation in all aspects of the Navy vanished with men and women rising to ever greater heights of achievement.

Rear Admiral Michael L. Holmes and Commander John B: Herrington are notable examples of these new opportunities. Holmes served 32 years as a naval aviator, and Herrington flew for the Navy and later NASA, becoming the first enrolled member of a Native American tribe to fly in space.

#### 1992-PRESENT

MODERN CHALLENGES

The recruiting efforts of the 1970s produced a shift where the Navy, rather than the Army, contained the highest proportion of Native Americans in uniform.

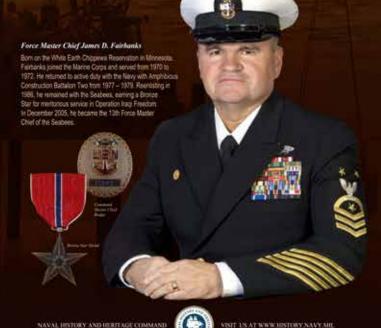


As of March 2012, active-duty Native American military members number 22:248. with over half, 13,511 in the Navy and 2,128 in the Marine Corps. Nationally, over 160,000 Native Americans proudly call themselves veterans.

The reasons behind such contributions are deeply rooted in traditional Native American culture, which venerates the values of commitment, courage, honor, strength. pride, and wisdom - all military values.

A great example of dedicated service is that of Master Chief James D. Fairbanks, A Chippewa from Northern Minnesota, he served in the Marine Corps, again in the Navy, and then served with the Seabees. In 2005, Fairbanks was selected as the 13th Force Master Chief of the Seabees.





#### Curbside pickup rolls out at Po

Story by Anna General, CNRH Public Affairs Photos by Stephanie Lau-Abdul, NEX Hawaii

In an effort to keep the health and safety of Hawaii military customers and associates a top priority during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange and the Hickam Exchange offer a new curbside pickup program.

In a recent news release by the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM), it stated that a new drive-up program rolled out to allow customers to safely pick up their merchandise curbside. Eligible customers must have an account on the NEXCOM online store, myNavyExchange.com. Orders are ready for pickup 48 hours of being placed. Once the order is ready, an NEX associate will notify the customer for payment information and the order will be ready for customer pickup within 30 minutes of payment.

Customers can park at designated curbside parking spots and must contact the Pearl Harbor NEX to let them know they are parked at the store. The customer must show their Department of Defense ID card to confirm the order, then the associate will place the purchase in the customer's car.

"NEX Hawaii is now a part of a curbside pickup program for those who are looking for an alternative to shopping within the store," said Staphanie Lau, NEX marketing manager.

The Hickam Exchange also provides a curbside pickup option at their main store according to Yvonne Palmieri, Hickam main store manager, who shares a similar step-by-step process.

"At Hickam, orders are placed through shopmyexchange.com and then an email will be sent to the customer when the order is ready for pickup," said Palmieri. "Once our customer gets that notification, the Hickam main store has four parking stalls marked 'curbside pickup' where customers can park. The customer would then dial the phone number displayed on the sign, 1-808-227-4193, and tell us what number parking stall they are at. Our associates then deliver the merchandise to our customers' vehicles."

For more information about the curbside pickup program, call the Pearl Harbor NEX at (808) 423-3287 or the Hickam Exchange at (808) 423-1304.



earl Harbor, Hickam Exchange



# **KNOW YOUR** Don't fly anywhere on base

Never fly near other aircraft or ships

Stay informed of policies and rules

Never fly over groups of people

Report suspicious activities

Have fun and remain safe

#### PROTECTING the shearwaters

**NAVFAC HI Environmental Outreach** 

November through December is the "annual shearwater fallout" season on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) and around the islands. Juvenile wedge-tailed shearwaters (seabirds) are learning to fly and often get disoriented by city lights. This will cause them to fly inland instead of toward the sea, fall to the ground and get injured, or become vulnerable to predators, road kill, etc.

The JBPHH Natural Resources team is requesting your help to minimize and respond to these fallout events by reducing or turning off unnecessary lighting during weeks surrounding the new moon, when risk of fallout is greatest.

Fallout peaks in mid-November through mid-December, with the highest risk of fallout associated with dates close to the new moon (Nov.13-21 and Dec.10-18).

JBPHH, especially Hickam Ramp and the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard are advised to reduce or turn off any unnecessary lighting during these weeks. Airfield hangar doors need to remain closed at night if lighting is on inside the hangar.

Is Found

What To Do If A Shearwater **How and When** To Handle Shearwaters U.S. Marine Corps file photo by Christine Cabalo)

**Contact Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Hawaii** Environmental at (808) 722-7285 (Oahu) or (808) 208-4416 (Kauai).

If found during working hours, the seabird will be picked up. If found after hours, the response may be delayed until the next day and the seabird may need to be secured.

If the seabird is in a safe location and will be picked up soon leave it there. However, if found after hours and/or seabird is in harm's way (e.g. roadkill, predation):

- Secure the seabird in a container such as a cardboard box.
- When handling, cusp the bird "firmly without squeezing".
- Keep wings close to the body. Birds have strong muscles, but fragile bones.
- Gloves are desirable. Although their bite is not hard, their fish-catching beak is very sharp.
- A towel or T-shirt may be used to cover seabird prior to handling.
- Keep the box in a quiet location until picked up.

#### MEDICAL TEAM CONDU

#### Story and photos by Macy Hinds NHCH Public Affairs

Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Pearl Harbor (NMRTC-PH) stood up an Expeditionary Testing Team (ETT) in April to conduct mass operational COVID-19 testing. Created in a moment's notice, their mission is to help ensure operational readiness of the fleet during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The group originated as an immediate response to positive COVID-19 cases aboard a U.S. naval vessel. However, it wasn't long before the demand for a mobile, qualified, and expeditious testing team expanded. NMRTC-PH pulled together a group of hospital corpsmen with experience and knowledge of the virus to stand up a quick reaction COVID-19 testing team.

The team conducts mass operational testing, also known as surveillance, to help detect the presence of a virus within a unit and prevent an outbreak.

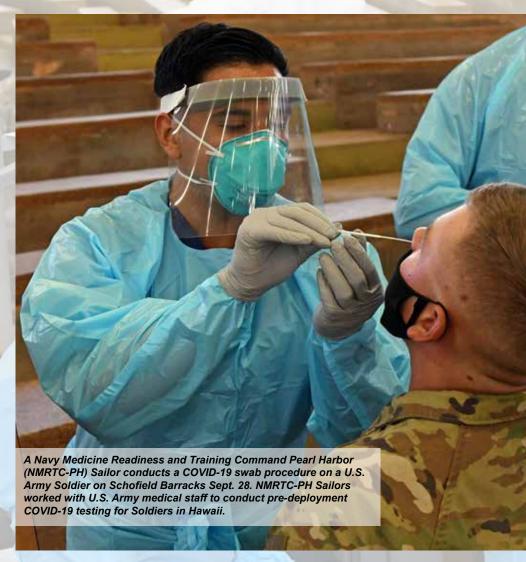
Cmdr. Catherine Corbett, director for health services at Naval Health Clinic Hawaii (NHCH) explained, "Through our method of surveillance, where rapid specimen collection is required for a large amount of operational forces, our medical team can help identify a population at risk and allow us to develop and institute countermeasures to prevent or reduce the health threat to warfighters."

Mass operational testing is especially important prior to deployment or mission-essential exercises.

"Mass testing allows each unit's leadership the means to ensure their missions and vessels are virus-free and to protect their crew's health and safety," said Senior Chief Petty Officer Ralph Vincent Solon, senior enlisted leader for directorate of health services at NMRTC-PH. "It also gives them a gauge and forecast of personnel resources for upcoming missions based on the unit's health."

The team travels from sea to shore to complete time sensitive missions.

"We conduct mass testing on a variety of entities but primarily Navy operational



units," Solon explained. "We've tested ships, submarines, Military Sealift Command ships, civilian corps personnel vital to ship operations, and special groups. We've even tested U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) personnel, which was a first for us."

In July, the USCG Base Honolulu on Sand Island requested COVID-19 predeployment testing. The team delivered.

"Our experience with the team was exceptional professionalism and support providing full-service coordination and testing capability with timely and accurate results," said Cmdr. Donald Kuhl, aviation physician assistant for USCG Base Honolulu satellite clinic. "Having the quick reaction team come to our base to complete the tests was extraordinary.

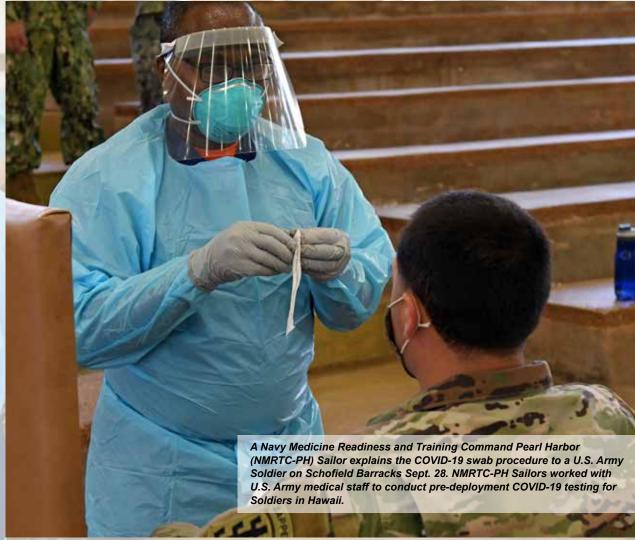
This avoided transporting the crew to another site and allowed them to quickly return to their duties. Most importantly in today's climate, it limited their exposure and contact with personnel outside the unit, helping to protect them and the community."

The team saves units' time, money, resources, and possible exposure to the virus. They have the flexibility to accommodate both scheduled and emergent requests.

"Our main purpose is to provide operational units an expedient and flexible testing process that can be molded and fit into each unit and their COVID-19 protocol," explained Solon. "Each unit is different and requires different testing plans to accommodate

#### CTS COVID-19 TESTING





the specific unit's testing needs."

Beyond the impact to the unit's mission, is the impact felt by the NMRTC-PH hospital corpsmen who comprise the ETT. As members of the team, they receive real-world, hands-on experience and the satisfaction of fighting in the war against COVID-19.

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Emily Adams, at NMRTC-PH, said, "It honestly means being part of something so much bigger than my daily job. It is nice to hear that commands are able to carry out their missions because of the work we put in through mass testing."

Their hard work has not gone unnoticed. The team received special recognition from Submarine Squadron 7's commodore and Tripler Army Medical Center's deputy commander for their efforts. NMRTC-PH leadership also praised the ETT for consistently carrying out their mission.

"I'm extremely proud of the men and women who are part of the quick reaction team," said Corbett. "From day one, they have stepped up to not only man and staff and perform testing, but contributed countless hours in preparing for each mission."

"As the team's missions and the continued persistence of the COVID-19 pandemic grow daily, their efforts and the whole NMRTC-PH team's outstanding professionalism and care for our beneficiaries continue to show the whole island and region our commitment

and important role in fighting this pandemic," said Capt. Christopher Tepera, commanding officer of NMRTC-PH.

The team saw a need for mobile, mass, surveillance COVID-19 testing for operational warfighters and pulled together to fill that void. While the team was the first in Navy Medicine, other services have followed suit. For example, NMRTC-PH's team helped U.S. Army units at Schoffield Barracks, Hawaii set up a similar mass testing operation in September. New testing missions continue to arise, as does the team's ability to meet the demand.

This is only the beginning for the ETT. As long as there is a need, the team will be there. NMRTC-PH's Expeditionary Testing Team is coming soon to a unit near you.





Water (1 gal. per person/day)
Food (Non-perishable)
First Aid Kit
Medical Equipment
Medications
NOAA Alert Radio
Extra Batteries

Flashlight
Can Opener
Tools
Warm Clothes
Sturdy Shoes
Personal Hygiene Items
Toilet Paper

Pet Supplies
Fire Extinguisher
Glasses/Eye Care
Cash
Identification
Important Documents
Comfort/Entertainment